

**ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to a method for inducing development of dendritic cells from CD34<sup>+</sup> precursor cells. More particularly, the present invention relates to a method of differentiating CD34<sup>+</sup> precursor cells into myeloid- and or lymphoid- dendritic cells. The present invention provides a protocol for the development of dendritic cells from a biological sample *inter alia* cord blood, bone marrow or peripheral blood CD34<sup>+</sup> stem cells. The dendritic cells of the present invention are useful as therapeutic cellular agents such as in the development of vaccines and in modulating immunological responsiveness. More particularly, the present invention provides compositions which can be used for inducing a protective immune response in a subject against *inter alia* pathogenic infections, autoimmune diseases and cancer.